4th YEAR WEB SAMPLE – NEW FORMAT

Exam Duration: 1 hour 30 minutes

PART ONE: LANGUAGE

A. Rewrite these sentences without changing their meaning.

1. Catherine said, "The sequel to my novel is coming out in September."

   Catherine said _____ in September.

2. You can't write on this website unless you are a registered user.

   If you _____, you can't write on this website.

3. Christopher Paolini wrote *Eragon* when he was only fifteen.

   Eragon was _____ when he was only fifteen.

4. I think *Eragon* is much better than *The Eyes of a King*.

   I think *The Eyes of a King* is not as _____ *Eragon*.

5. When Paolini finished *Eragon*, he started writing *Eldest* immediately.

   Paolini started writing *Eldest* as _____ *Eragon*.

For examiner's use only
1. ___/2
2. ___/2
3. ___/2
4. ___/2
5. ___/2

Corrected by:	Total marks in this exercise: _____/10

B. Complete the text with the correct tense or form of the verbs in brackets. Use modals, if necessary.

The Eyes of a King



Do you enjoy [1](read) _____ fantasy stories? [2](you/ever/think) _____ of writing one? Catherine Banner started writing *The Eyes of a King*, her first novel, at sixteen. She says, 'I [3](write) _____ my first book for my mum when I was four. But much later, while I [4](write) _____ *The Eyes of a King*, I decided [5](become) _____ a professional writer.'

It took Catherine two years to complete her novel. One day, Catherine was invited to a book festival. There she met a literary agent who [6](read) _____ her book. He asked her [7](sign) _____ a contract with a publishing house. Catherine was fascinated so she agreed to do so.

Catherine says, 'I [8](not be) _____ a writer for very long, and I am

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learning all the time. The most important thing that I try to do is to write about characters that I really care about. If I didn't care about the characters, there [9](be) _____ no story.'

The *Eyes of a King* [10](publish) _____ in 2008 when Catherine was 19 years old. The book is the first of a trilogy called *The Last Descendants* and it was a tremendous success.

NEW MARKING SCHEME

examiner's use only	
1.	/1
2.	/1
3.	/1
4.	/1
5.	/1
6.	/1
7.	/1
8.	/1
9.	/1
10.	/1

Corrected by:	Total marks in this exercise: _____/10

NEW TASK

C. Fill in the blanks with words from the box. There are **four extra words** which you do not need to use.

AFTER	**BUT**	**INTERESTING**	**JUST**
KNEW	**KNOWN**	**MORE**	**MOST**
SAID	**SINCE**	**THESE**	**TOLD**
	WHICH	**WHO**	

The life of a top children's author

David Walliams is a man of many talents. Before, he was [1]_____ as one of the main actors in the British comedy series *Little Britain*. [2]_____ now, especially with children, he is probably more famous as a bestselling author. In fact, some now say that he is the UK's [3]_____ successful children's writer, having sold 2.8 million copies of his first books in five years.

Walliams started acting at school. Then he went to university and [4]_____ that he joined the National Youth Theatre. There he met Matt Lucas [5]_____ became his partner in the *Little Britain* series in 2003.

But it was in 2008 that he signed a contract to write two children's books. The second of [6]_____ two books, *Mr Stink*, won the People's Book Prize in 2010. The books were so popular that he continued writing.

When he isn't acting or writing, Walliams has an [7]_____ hobby. He swims, but not just in his local swimming pool. In 2006, he swam from England to France to raise money for charity. [8]_____ then he's also swum about 225 kilometres of the River Thames. When he finished, he [9]_____ reporters: 'I think I've [10]_____ swum the length of the Thames! I feel quite tired. I think a bath is the only water I want to see for quite a while.'

For examiner's use only	
1.	/1
2.	/1
3.	/1
4.	/1
5.	/1
6.	/1
7.	/1
8.	/1
9.	/1
10.	/1

Corrected by:	Total marks in this exercise: _____/10

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D. Complete the dialogue below.

Red with embarrassment

Jed: Hi Brad! (1) _____ here? You don't usually travel by tube, do you?

Brad: I'm going to the Book Fair. Anthony Horowitz will be at a signing session.

Jed: Dream on! Do you mean the author of *Stormbreaker* is here in our town? The *Alex Rider* series is one of my favourites!

Brad: Yes, he's promoting *Crocodile Tears* – his eighth book in the series.

Jed: I know! I finished reading it this week. (2) _____ _____ yet?

Brad: No, not yet –the only books I've been reading lately are the ones I have for my exams. (3) Anyway, _____ with me?

Jed: Oh, I don't know. Maybe another time.

Brad: Come on, Jed! *Alex Rider* is one of your favourite series! (4) What _____?

Jed: The thing is... last year I made a fool of myself. I told Catherine Banner that I loved all her books, especially *Eragon*.

Brad: You can't be serious! *Eragon*'s Christopher Paolini's novel! (5) What _____ _____?

Jed: Well, at first, she looked at me and then she just burst out laughing. I was red with embarrassment!

Brad! Cheer up, Jed! I'm sure that won't happen again this time!

For examiner's use only	
1.	/3
2.	/3
3.	/3
4.	/3
5.	/3

Corrected by:	Total marks in this exercise: _____/15

PART II: Reading

E. Read the passage and answer the questions.

Fanfiction



Are you a Harry Potter fan? Did you enjoy *The Hunger Games* or *Twilight* sagas? Would like to write and read new stories about them? Then you can visit and participate in websites where people actually do this. Although *fanfiction* writing has existed for many years, the internet has had a great influence on this practice.

Nowadays, a lot of stories related to specific books, films or TV series are created by fans and read worldwide. In fanfiction sites, writers have numerous possibilities for keeping their favourite stories developing any way they want. For example, fanfic authors can make a 'sequel' with the original characters and settings. There can also be 'crossovers', which are stories where protagonists from different worlds interact in a new setting, or if the stories happen in similar contexts, they can meet in a place or date they have in common.

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Moreover, authors can work on their chapters by parts and, while doing so, receive feedback from other users. These users are called 'beta readers'. They review the stories and communicate with the writers by chat, email or any other message format. This system helps people to improve writing skills as well as the content of their stories. In addition, beta readers are very useful for those who want to write in a foreign language and have grammar, spelling and vocabulary corrected.

These online spaces enrich the writing experience and connect people with similar reading interests, creating a large community of fans who write and share their texts – some of which may even be published! 'Kindle Worlds', for example, is a publication platform that encourages fans to write fiction inspired by their worlds, and sell it to readers as ebooks on Amazon.com.

However, while many authors celebrate fanfiction – which they find exciting and flattering – others are not happy with this practice, which they have called 'an invasion'. Anne Rice, for example, author of *The Vampire Chronicles*, has expressly announced that she doesn't allow fanfiction. Instead, she advises her readers to write their own original stories with their own characters.

1. What can fanfic writers do if they liked a story very much? Provide two examples.

_____

_____

2. What is a 'crossover'?

_____

_____

3. How can fanfiction help somebody who is learning a foreign language?

_____

_____

4. What can fans of a story do thanks to Kindle Worlds?

_____

_____

5. Why do some authors dislike fanfiction?

_____

_____

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1. ___/5
2. ___/5
3. ___/5
4. ___/5
5. ___/5

Corrected by:	Total marks in this exercise: _____/25

THE VOCABULARY TASK HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED.
CHECK NEW TASK 'C' IN THE EXAM.

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PART III: WRITING

F. Choose ONE of the following subjects and write **about 100 words**.

1- **A BLOG ENTRY:** Write **a blog entry** about a book or an author you like. You may include the following information:

- The title of the book & the name of the author
- What kind of story it is
- What you like about this story in particular
- General comments on the plot, main characters, etc.
- Who else you think would enjoy reading this story

2- **AN EMAIL:** Imagine something really embarrassing has happened to you recently. Write **an email to an English-speaking friend** telling him/her about what happened. You may include the following information:

- When and where this happened
- Who you were with
- What happened and how you reacted
- How other people reacted
- How you feel about this experience now

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